Vol. VI. Numb. 41

THE OBSERVATOR.

Remarks on the Iriſh *Parliaments Addreſſes to the Queen, and his Excellency the Lord Deputy. The Notion of an* Union *with* Ireland *explain'd. The* Engliſh *in* Ireland *not conquer'd or Slaves. The Difference betwixt them and the* Iriſh. *'Tis for the Honour and Intereſt of* Britain, *to encourage the Proteſtants of* Ireland. *Their eminent Services to the Crown of* England. *Of the Death of Sir* Robert Clayton, *the Father of the City of* London.

From Saturday, July 19. to Wednesday, July 23. 1707.

Country-m. MAſter *Obſervator*, we have no News at all from beyond Sea; the poor News-Papers would drop, if it were not for the News from *Ireland*; and I thank God, we have glorious News from thence.

Obſ. What is it, *Roger*?

Country-m. PEACE and UNION. The Lyon lies down with the Lamb, and the *Halcyons* brood even on the ill-natur'd and contentious Seas of St. *George*'s Channel. His Excellency, her Majeſty's Deputy there, has made a Speech to the Parliament, ſuitable to the Genius and Temper of that great and good Queen, whoſe Perſon he repreſents; and the Parliament have addreſs'd her Majeſty and his Excellency in ſuch Terms as ſhows 'em to be of one Mind, and intending the ſame End, the common Good of ALL.

But, Maſter, ſome People complain of you, about your Propoſal for an *Union* with *Ireland*; they ſay it can't be done, for *Ireland* is no more than a conquer'd Province; that of it ſelf, it has no Sovereignty or Independency; and that 'tis beneath *Britain* to unite and be made of a Piece with their Vaſſals. Pray, Maſter, tell me a little more on this Subject, that I may be able to rebuke the Gain-ſayers, when they oppoſe it.

Obſ. The Enemies of *Union* will oppoſe me in what I ſay on ſuch Subjects; I only hinted at it, from the Nature and Force of *Union*, and did not enter into the Merits of the Cauſe; nor ſhall I do it now, any farther than to ſhow it in a clear Light.

Ireland is a conquer'd Nation, but the Inhabitants are not a conquer'd People. And here we muſt diſtinguiſh betwixt the Inhabitants the *Engliſh* planted there, and the Natives; as alſo betwixt the native *Engliſh*, and the native *Iriſh*.

An *Engliſh*-man can be a Slave in none of her Majeſty's Dominions, either in *Europe*, or elſewhere; and no one can imagine, that the *Engliſh*, who tranſplanted themſelves to *Ireland*, would quit the native Freedom and Liberty of their own Country, to be under the ſame Terms of Vaſſalage with a conquer'd People.

Our Plantations and Settlements Abroad, may juſtly be call'd conquer'd Provinces, and yet, in thoſe Places, no *Engliſh*-man is a Slave; nay, particular Proviſion is made againſt it, that he cannot be ſo, but ſhall enjoy the native Right of an *Engliſh*-man.

Now, all that I mean by an *Union* with *Ireland*, is, only with Reſpect to our Fellow Country-men, and their Offspring, that are planted there, who are of our own Blood, and not inferior to us in any Thing; as I ſhall ſhow anon.

The Name of *Engliſh*-man and *Scot*, are loſt by the *Union*, and as by it the Liberties of *Engliſh*-men and *Scots* are more firmly eſtabliſh'd by a ſtronger Force; ſo we have now one common Name of *Britains*, that there may not be ſo much as a Diſtinction or Difference even in Title.

But pray, Gentlemen, what will you call the *Engliſh* in *Ireland*, and the *Engliſh Iriſh*? Will you call 'em *Britains*? That can't be; for he cannot be properly call'd a *Britain*, that has not the Liberty and Franchiſe of a *Britain*. Will you give the *Engliſh Iriſh*, *i.e.* thoſe born of *Engliſh* Parents in *Ireland*, no other Liberty than the native *Iriſh*? That's very hard, Gentlemen, that a *Freeman* ſhould beget a *Slave*.

'Tis the Cauſe of theſe injur'd *Engliſh*-men, that I am pleading, and not the Cauſe of the native *Iriſh*: They are not related in Blood, and ought not to be ſo in Property. The *Engliſh* in *Ireland* were never conquer'd, and ought not to be ſubjected to the ſame Vaſſalage as thoſe that have been conquer'd.

The old *Romans*, a brave and wiſe People while they were vertuous, took ſuch Care of their conquer'd Provinces, that the *Romans* were the Maſters, and the Natives were not admitted to be ſo much as *Participes Imperii*, not Partners in the Adminiſtration, 'till ſuch time as they became *Romans* every way, in Reſpect of the *Roman* Laws and Religion.

And this they always took Care to do, by making their Terms of Vaſſalage ſuch as might in Time bring them to be *Romans*. And one Way was, to oblige them to the learning the *Roman* Language: This was a certain Article, and the only one that the old King of *Numidia* refus'd; *For*, ſaid he, *if my People learn the* Roman *Tongue, they will in Time embrace the* Roman *Laws and Cuſtoms, and conſequently, if Occaſion ſhould preſent, they will not revolt and recover my Kingdom for me.*

It may not be amiſs here to look back and conſider, whether, if we had oblig'd the *Iriſh*, upon the firſt Conqueſt, to have learnt the *Engliſh* Tongue, and diſus'd the *Iriſh*, they had not now been *Engliſh*? And if we had baniſh'd all the Popiſh Prieſts from that Country, whether they had not all or moſt of them been Proteſtants

Proteſtants at this Time? And what might have been done, may be done; too much Time is elaps'd, but 'tis not quite ſpent.

The Non-Improvement of the Conqueſt of *Ireland* by our former Governors, has been the Occaſion of all the Miſchiefs that have enſu'd thereupon. Foreigners could hardly call it a conquer'd Nation, when they heard of upwards of 200000 Proteſtants maſſacred by the Natives in ſo ſhort a Time. And none could believe the good Deſigns of *England*, when the Adminiſtration of that Government was put into the Hands of Papiſts, or what is as bad, into the Hands of High-flyers and Tories, Brethren united againſt the common Good.

I could deſcend to Particulars on this Head, and ſhow you a diſmal Scene of Iniquity; but 'tis not my Buſineſs at preſent to recriminate, the Authors of thoſe bloody Scenes are many of 'em gone to Judgment; and if there are any living, who ſtrengthen the Hands of the bloody Papiſts, know ye, that in a ſhort Time God will judge betwixt you and the Oppreſſed.

I plead the Cauſe of the Proteſtants in *Ireland*, but ſhall not at this Time offer any Methods for their Encouragement; I ſhall only ſhow, that the Proteſtants in *Ireland* have deſerv'd the higheſt Encouragement from *Britain*, and that *Britain* is oblig'd, in Honour, and in Reſpect to its true Intereſt, highly to encourage them.

1. The Proteſtants in *Ireland* have deſerv'd well at the Hands of the *Britains*. I might here look back into Queen *Elizabeth*'s Reign, and thoſe of other Princes, where we ſhall find the *Engliſh* Proteſtants eminently ſerviceable to the Crown of *England*, and the reform'd Religion; but 'tis not my uſual Method to look far back, when we have Inſtances in view, ſuch as are in Memory, and not defac'd by the Injuries of Time, or the Miſrepreſentations of Hiſtorians.

Their Services upon the Revolution will bear a glorious Memory to Poſterity, tho' unrewarded. Shall we impute this to the Ingratitude of *Engliſh*-men? By no Means. Let the evil Counſellors of the Kingdom bear the juſt Reproach, and not the generous *Engliſh*. They were the Men that made the firſt Stop to the Enemy, and had ſav'd that Country themſelves, had they had due Encouragement; which afterwards was reduc'd at the Expence of ſo much Blood and Treaſure, beſides the vaſt Numbers of brave *Engliſh*-men loſt at General *Schomberg*'s Burying-Place at *Dundalk*.

But the *Iriſh Engliſh*, or the *Engliſh* in *Ireland*, (I won't cavil about Names) were to have no Encouragement, the Nation was not to be reduc'd too ſoon: And that evil Counſellor of King *William*'s, *Savile*, Lord *Hallifax*, told the King, *That he muſt keep* Ireland *as a* lame Leg *to mump with, for the* Engliſh *would be unwilling to give him Money, but when the Danger was near, and at their own Doors.* Thus thoſe who are to raiſe their Fortunes on the Spoils of the Kingdom, adviſe the Management of publick Affairs for their own private Intereſt, by which they purchaſe vaſt Eſtates; how otherwiſe could this *Savile* leave 14 or 15000 Pounds a Year behind him, when the paternal Eſtate, which deſcended with the Honour to Sir *John Savile*, as Heir at Law, was but bare 200 Pounds *per Annum*, when the acquir'd Eſtate was every Penny of it given from Sir *John*, only becauſe he was a brave Aſſertor of the *Engliſh* Liberties? The Malice of a high-flying Tory againſt the *Engliſh* Liberties, deſcends with him even to the Grave.

For what Reaſon was *Kirk*, the moſt ignominious and hated of Mankind, ſent to the Relief of *Londonderry*, where he hover'd many Weeks about *Loughfoyle*, and could not force an enchanted Boom, which was done by another Hand, and the Town reliev'd when the Garriſon was half ſtarv'd, and reduc'd to the laſt Extremity? Was not this keeping the *lame Leg* ty'd up?

And now, can any *Britain* that wears the leaſt Honour or Conſcience in his Breaſt, help bluſhing at the Recital of theſe Things? That thoſe Gentlemen of *Londonderry*, who did ſuch Wonders in the Service of the Crown of *Great Britain*, ſhould be ſo far from having any generous Reward, that the very Arrears due to them upon the Eſtabliſhment, is not yet paid, after Service ſo many Years ago perform'd; when thoſe Arrears, as ſtated and deliver'd to Parliament, amount to not much more than 100000 Pounds?

Should I mention the Services of the *Inniſkilling* Men, and others, the Proteſtants in *Ireland*, I ſhould fill a Volume, inſtead of a Paper; and I wonder that none of thoſe injur'd Gentlemen, who have ſo long ſuffer'd, have not made it their Buſineſs to ſatisfy the World of their eminent Services!

Now, is it not, in the ſecond Place, for the Honour, and conſiſtent with the Juſtice of *Great Britain*, that theſe Gentlemen, who have been ſo inſtrumental in the Safety of *Britain*, whoſe Swords have help'd cut out the Way to UNION; I ſay, is it not highly reaſonable, as well as honourable, that they ſhould partake of the Fruits and bleſſed Effects thereof? Do it in what manner you pleaſe, Gentlemen; pay 'em their Arrears firſt, as a Token of your Juſtice, and then encourage them, as a Token of your Gratitude. I hope we ſhall never more need their Aſſiſtance; but what has been, may be. We are not aſſur'd of what wicked Counſellors may ariſe in Times to come. I never yet knew an infallible Remedy againſt Corruption: And 'tis better to keep our Friends, by Returns for real Service, than loſe them by Ingratitude. —— Any News, *Roger?*

Country-m. Not one Word from Abroad. But at Home, the Father of the City, Sir *Robert Clayton*, is dead, much lamented; and by his Death, the Place of Alderman for *Cheap-ward*, and Member of Parliament for the City, is vacant; and the honeſt Citizens deſign to put up Sir *Thomas Abney*, Sir *William Humphreys*, and Sir *James Collet*, for Alderman. What are thoſe Gentlemen?

Obſ. Shake 'em in a Bag, the firſt that comes out, is an honeſt Gentleman; this is *wink and chuſe*; you can't chuſe amiſs. I wiſh all Candidates for Members of Parliament were ſo put up. I don't queſtion but either of 'em will follow the Example of their worthy Predeceſſor, Sir *Robert*; than whom, there was no better *Citizen* or *Senator*.

Country-m. Then here's to all their good Healths.

Advertiſements.

*** Your old Phyſician Dr. *Caſe*, deſires you not to forget him, who cures all Venereal Diſeaſes, or the Grand P—, with all its attending Symptoms, very cheap, pleaſant, and no Neglect of Buſineſs, in few Days, at *Lilly*'s *Head*, over againſt *Ludgate Church*, within *Black-Fryars* Gate-way.

‡‡‡ Advertiſements for this Paper, are taken in by *B. Bragge* at the *Raven* in *Pater-Noſter-Row*; and *H. Meere*, at the *Black-Fryar* in *Black-Fryars*.

LONDON, Printed for the Author, JOHN TUTCHIN.